

CJI Planning Survey

1999

Highlights And Findings





I N D I A N A
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
I N S T I T U T E

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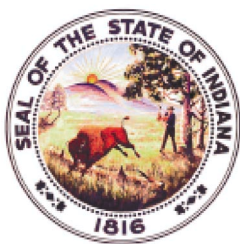
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CJI Planning Survey 1999 Highlights and Findings



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About the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

Guided by a Board of Trustees representing all components of Indiana's criminal and juvenile justice systems, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute serves as the state's public safety planning agency. The Institute develops long-range strategies for the effective administration of Indiana's criminal and juvenile justice systems and administers federal and state funds to carry out these strategies.

The Institute oversees a variety of justice programs including the Governor's Criminal Law Study Commission, Governor's Commission for a Drug-Free Indiana, Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, Victim Services, Juvenile Justice Program, Safe Haven, Drug and Crime Control Program, Criminal History Records Improvement, Law Enforcement Assistance Fund, and Police Corp.

To carry out the Institute's planning and administration mandates, the Institute's Board of Trustees identifies statewide needs and resources for fighting crime and delinquency and helping victims of crime. Information gathered from various sources is used to develop statewide criminal and juvenile justice policies and strategic plans. Sources of planning information include the following:

- Evaluations of program effectiveness;
- Research data;
- Needs assessments;
- Local units of government;
- Other state government agencies;
- Professionals involved in justice-related efforts; and
- Concerned citizens.

Indiana's 1999 Strategic Planning Survey (the Survey) serves as an important source of information for criminal and juvenile justice planning in the early years of the new millennium. The Survey captures and quantifies the experience and knowledge of more than 1,500 professionals working in criminal and juvenile justice across the state. This publication presents Survey findings and describes what we learned from this research initiative conducted in the summer of 1999.

Table of Contents

i-vi

Survey Purpose, Methods, Highlights

Survey Findings

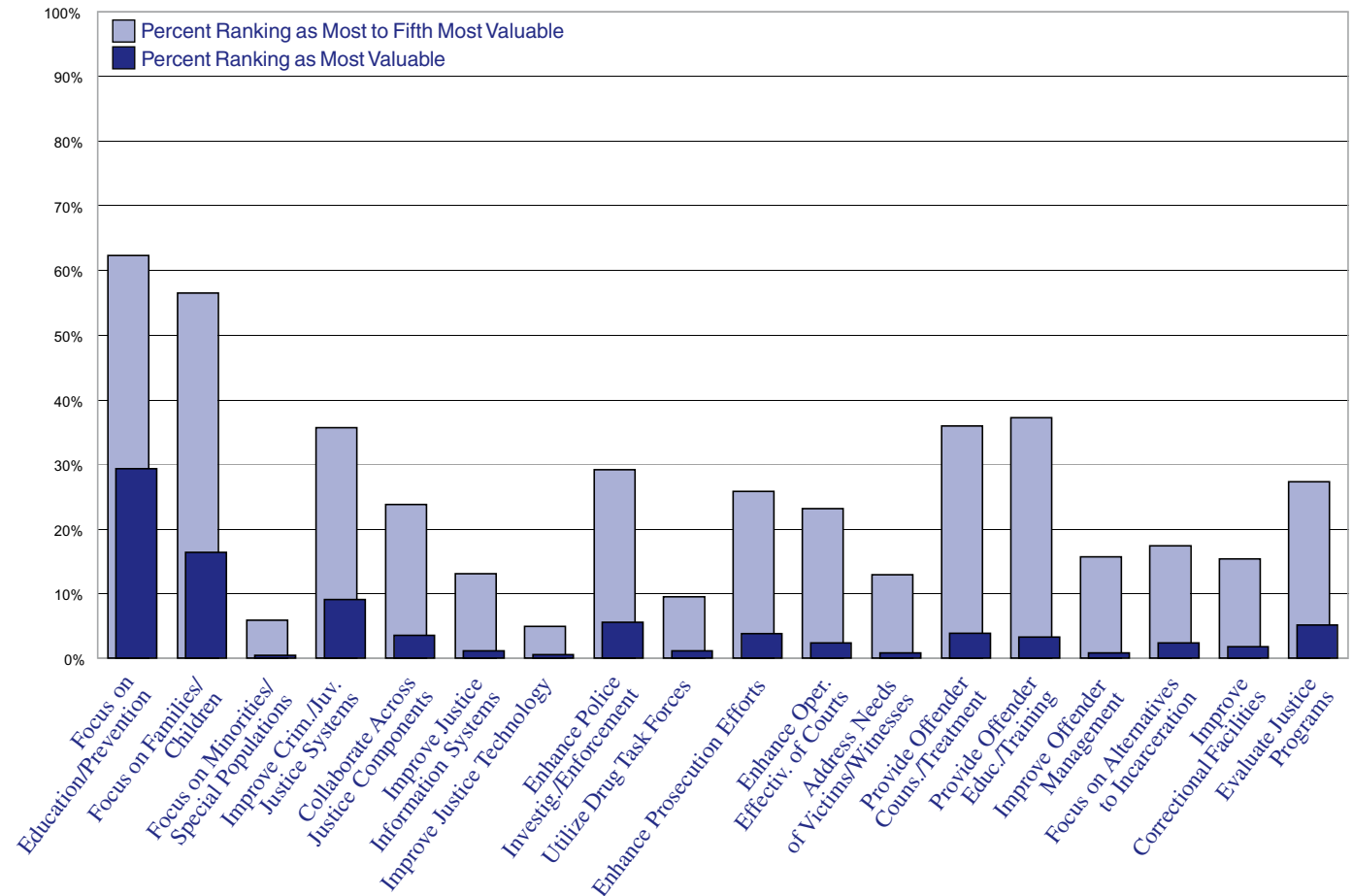
| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Age Group that Commits the Most Offenses, Commits the Most Serious Offenses, and Represents the Largest Drain on Community Resources |
| 2 | Juvenile Offenses Creating the Largest Drain on Community Resources |
| 3 | Juvenile Offenses Involving an Illegally Obtained Firearm |
| 4 | Factors Contributing to Juvenile Delinquency |
| 5 | Minority Representation at Various Stages of the Juvenile Justice System |
| 6 | Adult Offenses Creating the Largest Drain on Community Resources |
| 7 | Adult Offenses Involving an Illegally Obtained Firearm |
| 8 | Availability of Programs for Dealing with Drug Problems |
| 9 | Controlled Substances Most Abused in Communities |
| 10 | Presence of Organized Gangs in Communities |
| 11 | Crimes Committed by Organized Gangs |
| 12 | Changes in the Illegal Activity of Organized Gangs in the Last Three Years |
| 13 | Presence of Non-Organized Gangs in Communities |
| 14 | Crimes Committed by Non-Organized Gangs |
| 15 | Changes in the Illegal Activity of Non-Organized Gangs in the Last Three Years |
| 16 | Value of Various Approaches for Fighting Delinquency and Crime |
| 17 | Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs – Chart 1 |
| 18 | Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs – Chart 2 |
| 19 | Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs – Chart 3 |
| 20 | Most Effective Programs for Dealing with Crime and Delinquency |
| 21 | Programs Respondents Would Implement to Meet the Needs of their Communities |
| 22 | Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Law Enforcement Agencies |
| 23 | Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from the Judicial System |
| 24 | Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Community-Based Sanction Agencies |
| 25 | Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of Criminal History Records from Secure Correctional Facilities |
| 26 | Availability of Justice Information Systems |
| 27 | Criminal History Information Needs |

Value of Various Approaches for Fighting Delinquency and Crime

Survey Question

Question 25:

Several general approaches to fighting delinquency/crime are listed below. Please rank the five approaches that you think would be the most valuable to your community's fight against delinquency/crime. Place 1 next to the most valuable, 2 next to the second most valuable, 3 next to the third most valuable, 4 next to the fourth most valuable, and 5 next to the fifth most valuable approach.

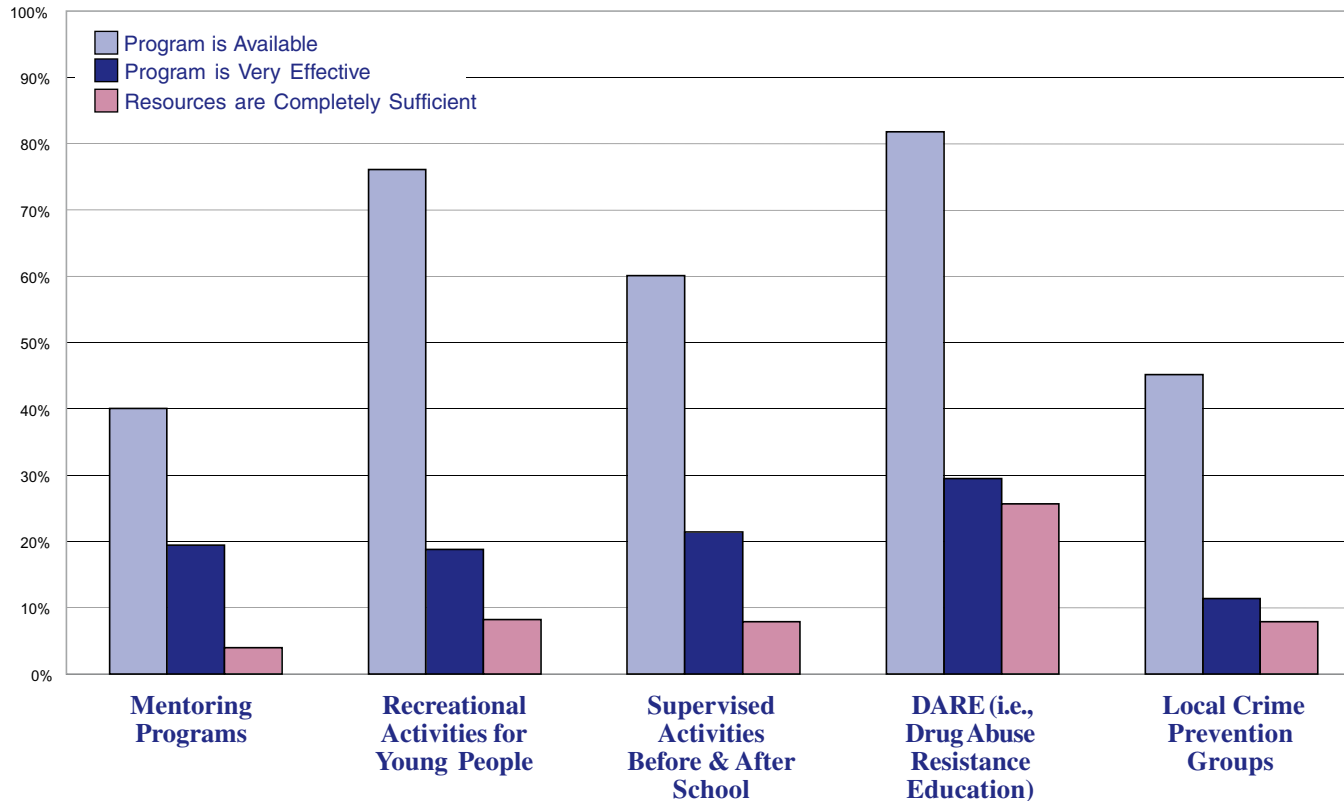


Percent ranking as the most valuable was calculated by dividing the number of respondents ranking an item as the most valuable approach by 1,135 (the number of respondents returning the survey). Percent ranking as the most to the fifth most valuable was calculated by summing the number of respondents ranking an item as the most, second most, third most, fourth most, and fifth most valuable approach and dividing that sum by 1,135.

Findings: More than half of all respondents rated focusing on education and prevention and focusing on justice issues affecting families and children among the top five approaches most valuable to their communities' fight against delinquency and crime. The largest proportion of respondents rating any single approach (29%) ranked education and prevention as the *most valuable approach*.

Note: Eighteen statements describing different approaches to fighting delinquency and crime were presented in alphabetical order to avoid biasing responses to this question (e.g., "Focusing on education and prevention").

Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs -- Chart 1



The number of respondents indicating whether a specific program was available varied, ranging from 1,097 for specialized prosecution programs to 1,114 for supervised activities before and after school. Data on program effectiveness and the sufficiency of resources for programs are presented only for those respondents who indicated that a particular program is available in their communities.

Findings: Examination of the three charts associated with this question demonstrates that, with the exception of a few programs, one-half or more of all respondents reported that each of the programs listed is available in their communities. Relatively few respondents rated any of the available programs as very effective, and few believed that program resources are completely sufficient.

Note: Response options for each part of question 26 were: (a) yes, no, and don't know; (b) not at all effective, somewhat effective, very effective, and don't know; (c) not at all sufficient, somewhat sufficient, completely sufficient, and don't know.

Survey Question

Question 26:

Several specific types of criminal/ juvenile justice programs are listed below. For each program, indicate (a) whether your community has such programs, (b) how effectively you think those programs address the issues they are intended to address, and (c) how sufficient you think the resources in your community (no matter the source) are for such programs.

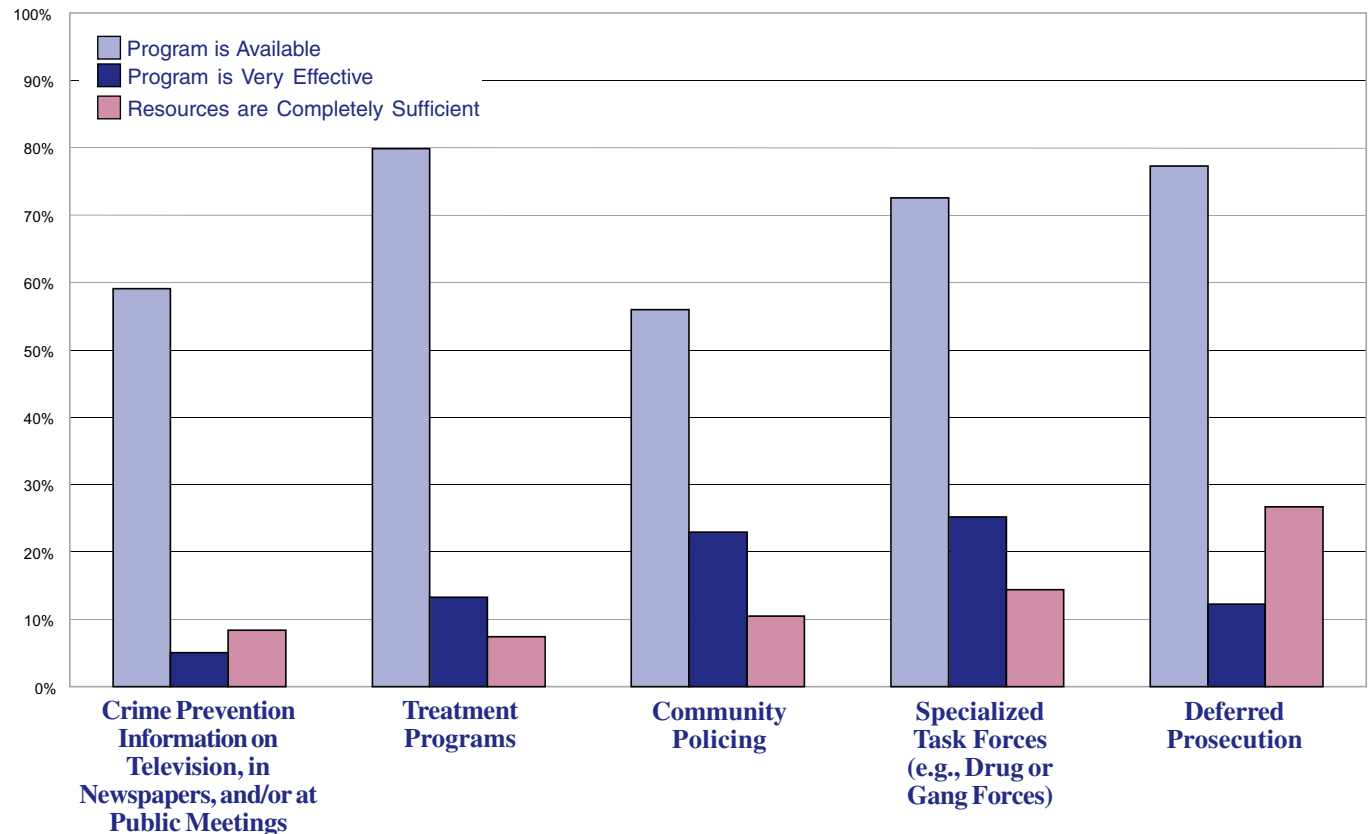
**Information on additional programs included in this Survey question is presented on pages 18 and 19.*

Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs -- Chart 2

Survey Question

Question 26:

Several specific types of criminal/ juvenile justice programs are listed below. For each program, indicate (a) whether your community has such programs, (b) how effectively you think those programs address the issues they are intended to address, and (c) how sufficient you think the resources in your community (no matter the source) are for such programs.



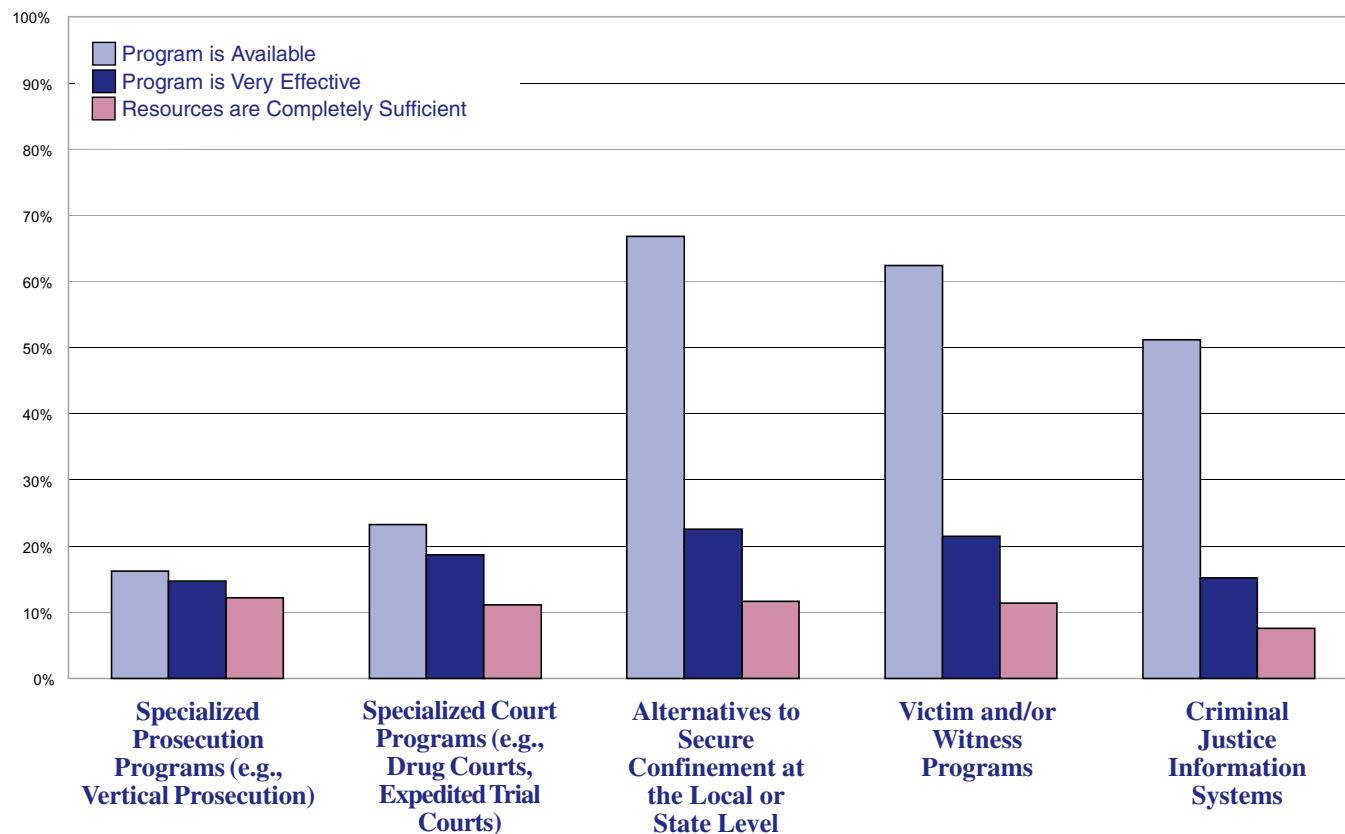
The number of respondents indicating whether a specific program was available varied, ranging from 1,097 for specialized prosecution programs to 1,114 for supervised activities before and after school. Data on program effectiveness and the sufficiency of resources for programs are presented only for those respondents who indicated that a particular program is available in their communities.

Findings: Examination of the three charts associated with this question demonstrates that, with the exception of a few programs, one-half or more of all respondents reported that each of the programs listed is available in their communities. Relatively few respondents rated any of the available programs as very effective, and few believed that program resources are completely sufficient.

Note: Response options for each part of question 26 were: (a) yes, no, and don't know; (b) not at all effective, somewhat effective, very effective, and don't know; (c) not at all sufficient, somewhat sufficient, completely sufficient, and don't know.

**Information on additional programs included in this Survey question is presented on pages 17 and 19.*

Availability, Effectiveness, and Sufficiency of Resources for Justice Programs -- Chart 3



The number of respondents indicating whether a specific program was available varied, ranging from 1,097 for specialized prosecution programs to 1,114 for supervised activities before and after school. Data on program effectiveness and the sufficiency of resources for programs are presented only for those respondents who indicated that a particular program is available in their communities.

Findings: Examination of the three charts associated with this question demonstrates that, with the exception of a few programs, one-half or more of all respondents reported that each of the programs listed is available in their communities. Relatively few respondents rated any of the available programs as very effective, and few believed that program resources are completely sufficient.

Note: Response options for each part of question 26 were: (a) yes, no, and don't know; (b) not at all effective, somewhat effective, very effective, and don't know; (c) not at all sufficient, somewhat sufficient, completely sufficient, and don't know.

Survey Question

Question 26:

Several specific types of criminal/ juvenile justice programs are listed below. For each program, indicate (a) whether your community has such programs, (b) how effectively you think those programs address the issues they are intended to address, and (c) how sufficient you think the resources in your community (no matter the source) are for such programs.

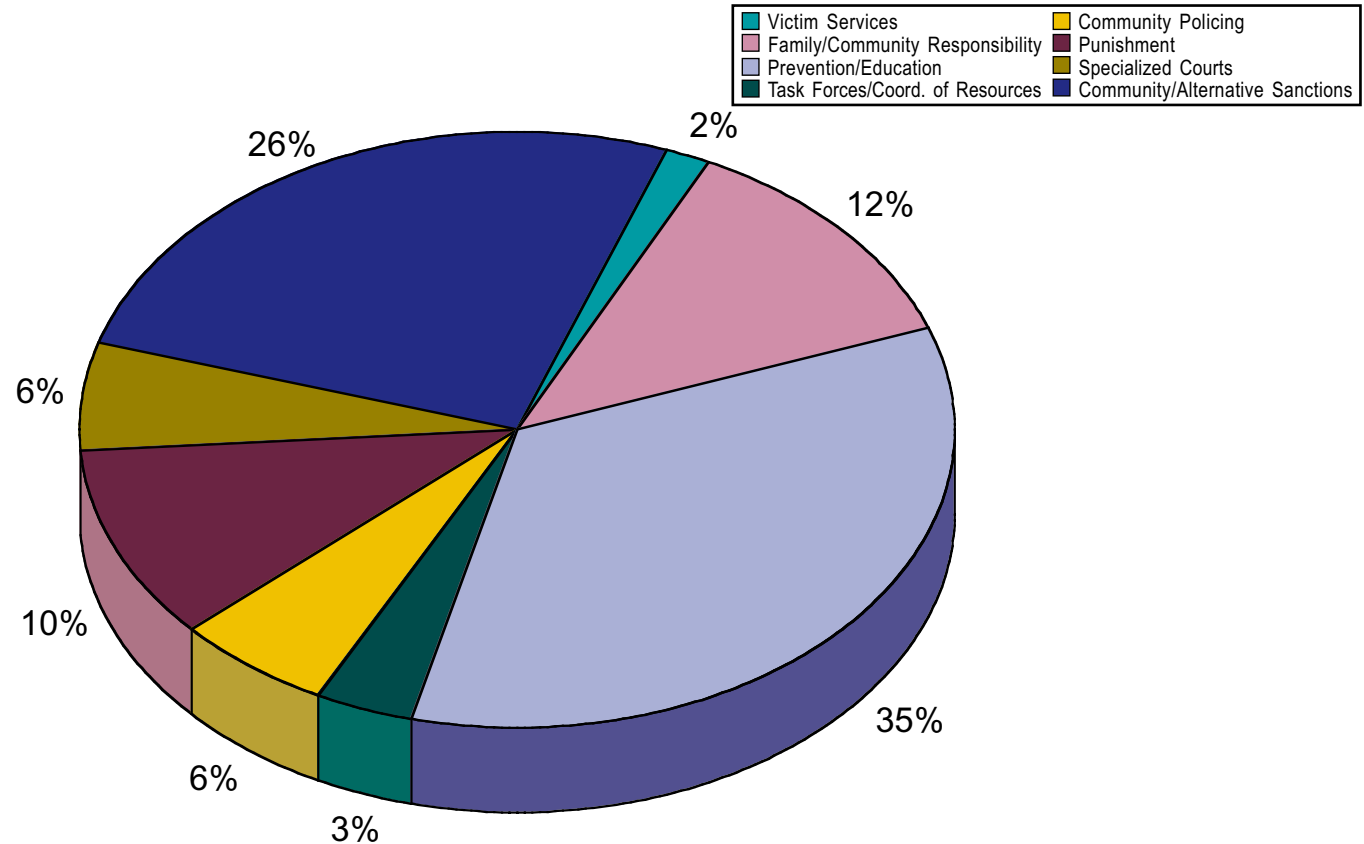
**Information on additional programs included in this Survey question is presented on pages 17 and 18.*

Most Effective Programs for Dealing with Crime and Delinquency

Survey Question

Question 27:

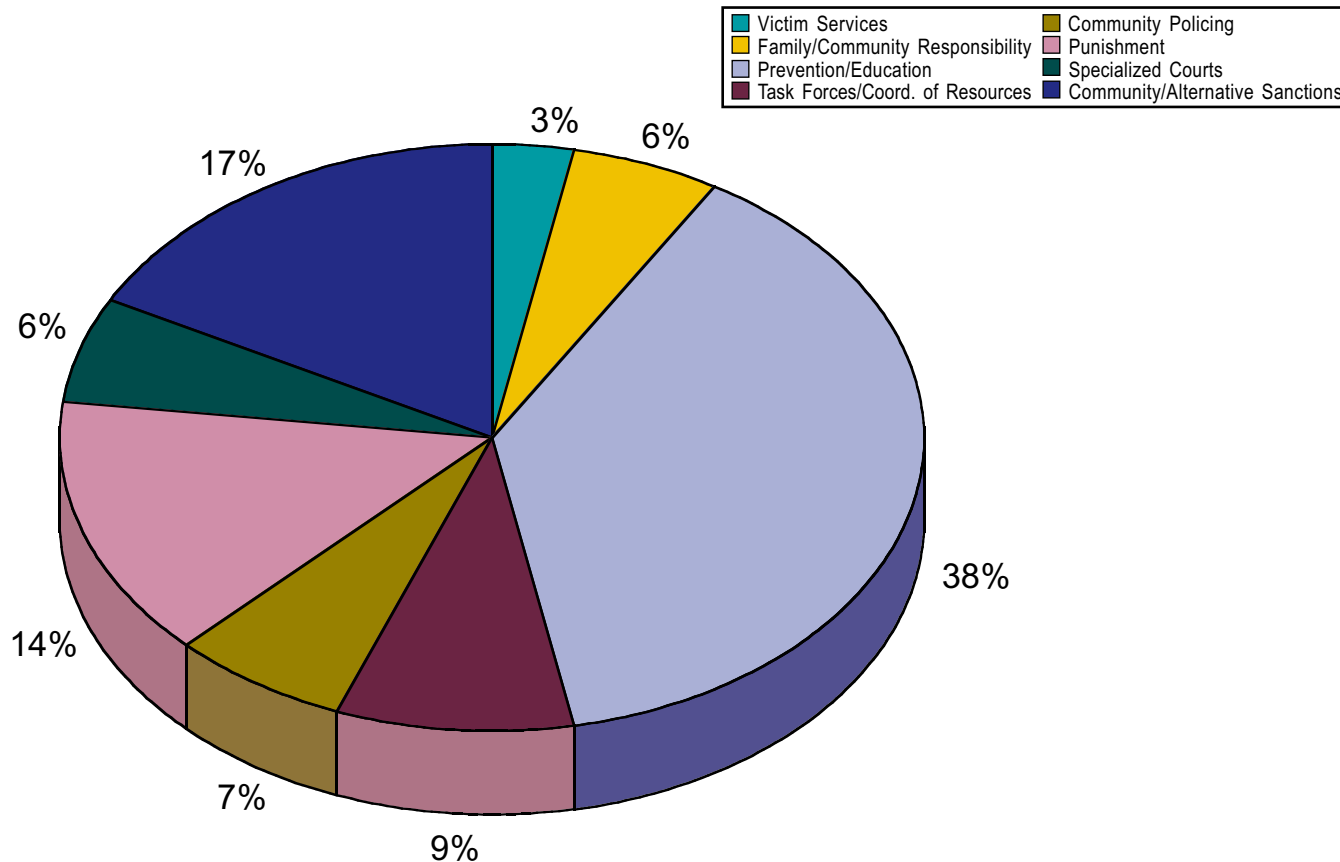
Please name and briefly describe the most effective program you are aware of for dealing with delinquency/crime. The program you discuss does NOT have to be a “criminal/juvenile justice” program per se, and it does NOT have to be in your community right now. It can address any aspect of delinquency/crime, from its causes to prevention through sanctions, as long as you believe it is a highly effective program.



516 respondents answered this question.

Findings: Content analysis indicated that the programs listed tend to fall into one of eight categories as shown. The largest proportions of respondents identified crime prevention or education programs (35%) and community/alternative sanctions (26%) as the most effective programs for dealing with crime and delinquency. Ten to twelve percent of respondents thought that punishment-based programs or programs focusing on family and community responsibility are highly effective.

Programs Respondents Would Implement To Meet the Needs of Their Communities



Survey Question

Question 28:

Now, if you could implement any three (3) of the many existing criminal/juvenile justice programs to meet the current needs of your community, what would they be?

465 respondents listed at least one program in response to this question. Only some respondents listed three programs as requested but when more than one program was listed, they were often the same types of programs (e.g., prevention/education programs). Thus, to simplify interpretation, only the first program listed was included in this analysis.

Findings: Content analysis again indicated that the programs listed tend to fall into the same eight categories as noted for the previous question. Thirty-eight percent of respondents would implement prevention or education programs to meet the current needs of their communities, 17% would implement community/alternative sanction programs, and 14% would implement punishment-based programs, such as detention centers, boot camps, and stiffer penalties for crime.



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